

Message Text

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73

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 SCA-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

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FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2407

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AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS CASABLANCA 0714

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MO

SUBJ: AMERICAN TOURIST AGENTS ASSAULTED

1. A GROUP OF 23 NEW YORK TOURIST AGENTS ARRIVED IN CASABLANCA ON SEPTEMBER 17 TO ASSESS PROSPECTS OF ASSEMBLING PACKAGE TOURS TO MOROCCO. GOM MINISTRY OF TOURISM EXTENDED OFFICIAL INVITATION TO GROUP AND PROVIDED GUIDES AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, PAN AM RENDERED FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE INCLUDING HOSTESS WHO ACTED AS TRANSLATOR AND CO-ORDINATED GROUP'S ACTIVITIES.

2. GROUP PARTICIPANTS MRS. HUNNE E. GRECA OF LOCUST VALLEY TRAVEL CORP., LOCUST VALLEY, N.Y. AND GEORGE PAYNE COWEN (NAME OF FIRM UNKNOWN) WHO ARE TOGETHER IN FRONT OF HOTEL ALMORAVIDES, MARRAKECH ROBBED AT KNIFE POINT AND ASSAULTED APPROXIMATELY 2330 HRS.OF SEPTEMBER 21 BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS GRECA PUNCHED IN RIGHT EYE AND MAY HAVE SUSTAINED DETACHED RETINA. ALSO, GRECA'S HANDBAG WAS TAKEN WHICH CONTAINED PASSPORTS OF BOTH VICTIMS.

3. GRECA AND COWEN EMPLANED FOR NEW YORK WITH REST OF GROUP SEPTEMBER 24 VIA PAN AM. POUCHING OM TO DEPT DATED SEPTEMBER 24 RE STOLEN PASSPORTS AND ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY LIMITED PASSPORTS.

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